MISS America

NOVEMBER • 10¢

$1,000 in Prizes for Teen-Agers

(SEE PAGE 19)

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- COMICS
- MOVIES
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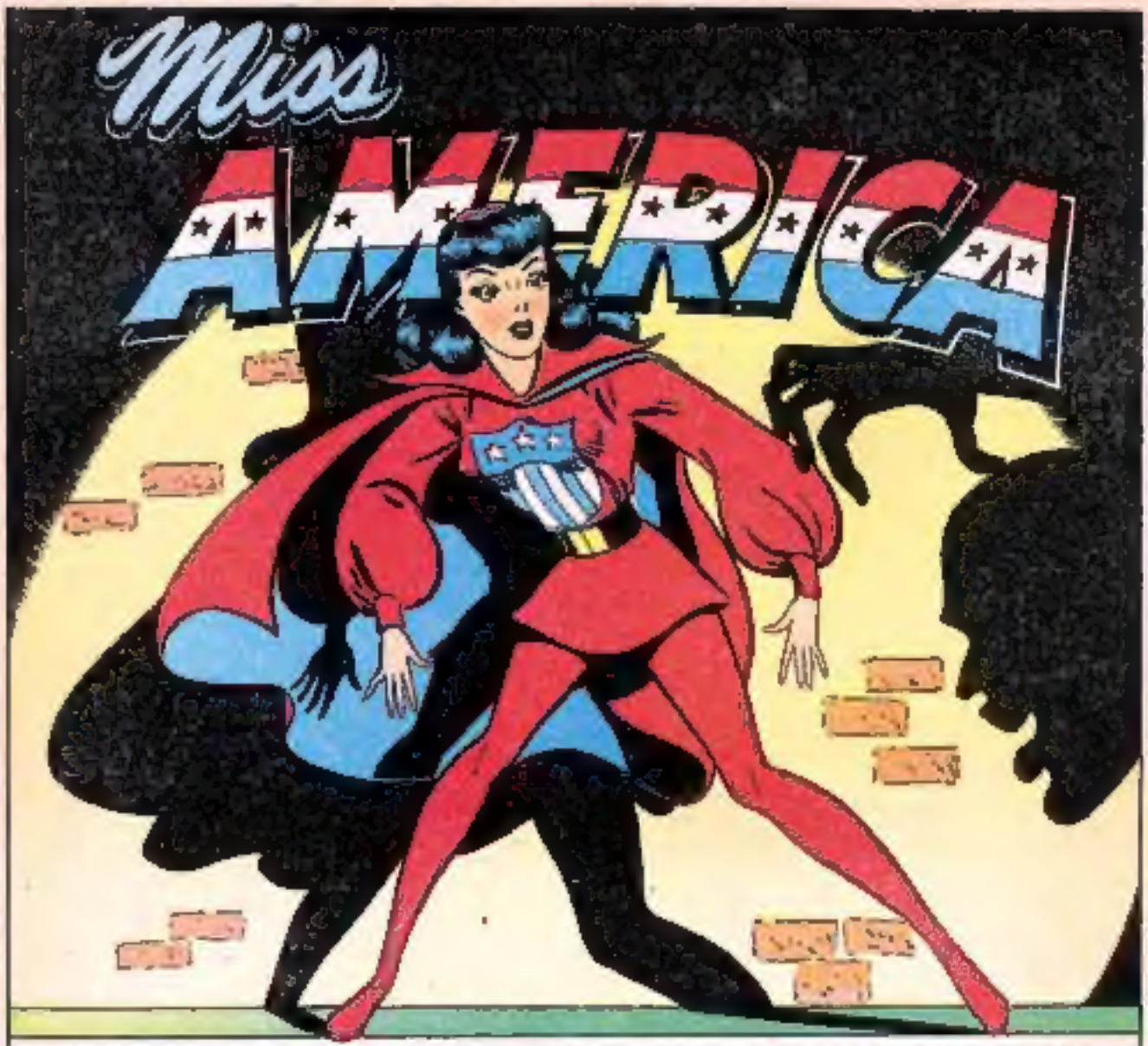
- *Charm*

PLUS MANY MORE FINE FEATURES



FOLLOW THE EXCITING EXPLOITS OF **MISS AMERICA** AS SHE BATTLES CRIME AND ALL THINGS EVIL IN "**THE MYSTERY OF THE SHOCKER!**" SINGLE-HANDEDLY, **MISS AMERICA** OUTWITS A SUPER-CRIMINAL WHO HAS TERRIBLE DESTRUCTIVE POWERS! BUT BEFORE YOU TURN THE PAGE, LET US INTRODUCE **MISS AMERICA** AND GIVE YOU HER BACKGROUND!

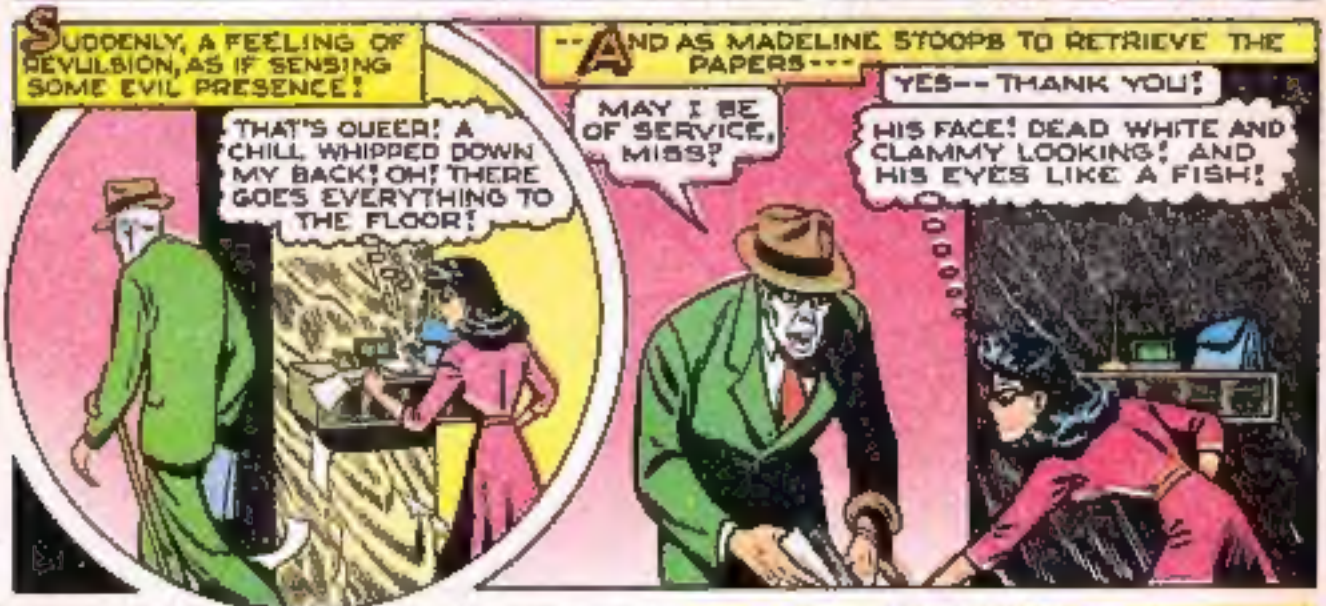
MISS AMERICA, REALLY, IS MADELINE JOYCE, A SWEET-FACED NORMAL 16-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO LIVES WITH HER KINDLY UNCLE, WELL-TO-DO JAMES BENTON! ONE DAY, WHILE VISITING HER UNCLE'S FRIEND, A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST-INVENTOR, MADELINE, NOT YET ENDOWED WITH HER EXTRAORDINARY POWERS, GOES INTO THE INVENTOR'S DEN! DURING THIS VISIT, AN ELECTRICAL STORM FILLS THE HEAVENS! MADELINE, TRAPPED IN A HIGH VOLTAGE CABINET, FALLS UNCONSCIOUS! FOLLOWING HER REVIVAL, AND WHILE DRIVING ALONG IN HER CAR, SHE CHANCED UPON CRIMINALS ATTACKING DEFENSELESS CITIZENS! OUTRAGED, SHE JUMPED OUT OF THE CAR AND --- MIRACULOUSLY, DISCOVERED THAT SHE COULD PERFORM SUPER-HUMAN FEATS! THUS **MISS AMERICA** CAME INTO BEING!

BUT PLEASE REMEMBER, AS YOU FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES OF **MISS AMERICA** THAT NOBODY BUT **YOU** KNOWS THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THIS REMARKABLE CRIME FIGHTER; ONLY YOU KNOW SHE IS MADELINE JOYCE AS SHE ASSUMES THE ROLE OF **MISS AMERICA**, CHAMPION OF JUSTICE IN ---

The MYSTERY of THE SHOCKER!

OH! IT'S ALMOST THREE O'CLOCK! THEY'RE SHUTTING THE DOORS! MUST DEPOSIT UNCLE JIM'S WAR BONDS IN THE BANK VAULT BEFORE IT CLOSES! HE SAYS IT ISN'T SAFE OR WISE TO CARRY BONDS AROUND---

O.K., TOM! LET THE YOUNG LADY IN!
BETTER HURRY, MISS! IT'S CLOSING TIME!
THANKS-SO MUCH!


SUDDENLY, A FEELING OF REVULSION, AS IF SENSING SOME EVIL PRESENCE!
THAT'S QUEER! A CHILL WHIPPED DOWN MY BACK! OH! THERE GOES EVERYTHING TO THE FLOOR!
--AND AS MADELINE STOOPS TO RETRIEVE THE PAPERS---
MAY I BE OF SERVICE, MISS?
YES--THANK YOU!
HIS FACE! DEAD WHITE AND CLAMMY LOOKING! AND HIS EYES LIKE A FISH!

DON'T LIKE THE ACTIONS OF THAT STRANGE LOOKING MAN! GIVES ME CREEPS! THAT PECULIAR WAY HE HAS OF WALKING--LIKE NOTHING HUMAN!

MADELINE IS NOT ALONE IN HER SUSPICIOUS OBSERVATION OF THE TALL, THIN MAN!
THAT THIN GUY'S BEEN HANGING AROUND QUITE A SPELL! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF IT!
COME ON!

THEN--WITH BRAZEN INDIFFERENCE TO THE PRESENCE OF ARMED GUARDS, THE STRANGE FIGURE MAKES STARTLING DEMANDS!
DON'T RAISE YOUR HANDS! PLACE THEM IN YOUR POCKETS AND KEEP THEM THERE! AND KEEP YOUR FOOT OFF THAT ALARM BUTTON -- OR YOU DIE!
THIS RAKE IS VERY HANDY -- AS A CANE OR -- MANY OTHER PURPOSES!
MADELINE IS STRUCK BY THE ICY CALM OF THE CAPTURED ROBBER!
DROP THAT GUN!
TSK! TSK! I HAD HOPED THAT YOU WOULDN'T MEDDLE!
SOMETHING'S WRONG ABOUT HIS EASY SURRENDER! HE KNEW THE GUARDS WERE AROUND--
THEN, AS THE FINGERS OF THE GUARDS GRIP THE ROBBER'S ARMS, GREAT BLINDING FORKS OF LIGHTNING HURL THE HUSKY PAIR THRU THE AIR---
PAYING & RECEIVING
OHHH!
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MADELINE, STUNNED BY THE WEIRD ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE, FIGHTS TO CLEAR HER HEAD!
AU REVOIR! YOU ARE THE FIRST TO MEET "THE SHOCKER!"
LOOK! THE GUARDS!
OOO! MY HEAD!
ELECTROCUTED! THEIR BODIES CHARRED! MUST FIND SOME WAY TO STOP THAT DANGEROUS SHOCKER!
IN A FEW STRIDES, THE SHOCKER IS ACROSS THE SIDEWALK ONTO A PASSING CAR!
SAY! WHAT THE--?
OUT YOU GO, MY FRIEND! THE SHOCKER NEEDS THIS CAR!
AND AS MADELINE RACES AFTER HIM, SHE SEES---
STOPPING HIM WON'T BE EASY! NOT EVEN FOR MISS AMERICA!
IT'S THAT GIRL! SHE IS FOOLHARDY TO PURSUE ME! I'LL SPEED UP!
THIS SHOCKER IS VERY CLEVER! HE PILED UP THE TRAFFIC IN A SNARL TO BLOCK PURSUIT! I THINK MISS AMERICA WILL TAKE TO THE AIR -- HE WON'T GET AWAY!

ONCE IN THE AIR, MISS AMERICA QUICKLY PICKS UP THE MYSTERIOUS SHOCKER'S TRAIL AS HE NEARS THE DESERTED DOCKS IN THE STOLEN CAR---
HE SPOTTED ME!
WHY--THAT'S MISS AMERICA--HOW DID SHE GET ON MY TRAIL??
SUDDENLY THE SHOCKER SWERVES AND HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE RIVER!
GOT HIM CORNERED! NOW WE'LL SEE WHAT HE'LL DO!
OH-OH! NEVER THOUGHT HE'D DIVE IN! WELL, I'LL WAIT UNTIL HE COMES UP! I MUST THINK OF A WAY TO COMBAT THAT LETHAL LIGHTNING OF HIS!
TEN MINUTES LATER, THE PUZZLED WATCHER BECOMES UNEASY OVER THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE SHOCKER!
THE SHOCKER NEVER CAME UP! NO HUMAN BEING COULD STAY UNDER WATER THAT LONG---SOMETHING QUEER ABOUT THIS WHOLE SET-UP!
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LATER AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MISS AMERICA ARGUES AGAINST THE THEORY THAT THE SHOCKER WAS DROWNED!
MY MEN HAVE SEARCHED THE DOCKS AND HARBOR AND THEY COULDN'T FIND A TRACE OF HIM!
YOU'LL NEVER FIND HIS BODY!
ATTENTION! ALL CARS! PROCEED TO THIRD AND VINE! THE SHOCKER ROBBED JEWELRY STORE---
I'LL LET THE RADIO ARGUE MY END! I'M OFF ON A HUNCH!
STRAIGHT AS A CROW ZOOMS MISS AMERICA TOWARD THE RIVER'S EDGE!
THERE HE IS! HE'S HEADING FOR THE RIVER JUST ABOVE WHERE HE JUMPED LAST TIME!
RIGHT AFTER YOU! LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE A REASON FOR LEAPING INTO THE RIVER AT THIS PARTICULAR POINT!
FORGETTING IN THE HEAT OF PURSUIT, THE STRANGE POWERS OF THE SHOCKER, MISS AMERICA ESCAPES DEATH BY THE NARROWEST OF MARGINS!
OW! ALMOST FORGOT! THE WATER IS NO PLACE TO BATTLE THIS CREATURE! HE'S MORE LIKE AN ELECTRIC EEL THAN A MAN!

ONCE OUT OF THE WATER AND SAFE FROM THE SHOCKER, MISS AMERICA DECIDES TO CHANGE BACK TO MADELINE AS SHE PUZZLES OVER THE STRANGE PATTERN OF EVENTS!
IT WOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT THE SHOCKER ISN'T HUMAN, BUT--!
--I KNOW DIFFERENTLY! HE'S HUMAN ALL RIGHT-- BUT HIS ABILITY TO FLASH THAT FORKED LIGHTNING--??
DEPARTMENT OF DOCKS AND HARBORS
I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN I FIND HIM! I STILL THINK HIS HIDEOUT IS NEAR THAT SPOT--
MISS! IS THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?
HOURS LATER--
SORRY, MISS! THESE ARE ALL THE PLANS I HAVE OF THE DOCK AREA! I'M-- WAIT! I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING!
THIS IS A PLAN OF A TUNNEL THAT WAS STARTED YEARS AGO AND ABANDONED! THE ENTRANCE ON THIS SIDE IS RIGHT NEAR HERE---
WE GOT IT!
MOMENTS LATER, MADELINE, RACING TOWARD THE HALF FINISHED BUILDING OVER THE ENTRANCE TO THE ABANDONED TUNNEL, HALTS HER SWIFT RUSH!
OH-OH! I'LL DUCK INTO THIS DOORWAY--SOMETHING'S WRONG--
TUNNEL

HMN?? WHAT WOULD A WATCHMAN BE DOING GUARDING AN ABANDONED TUNNEL?? AND SINCE IT'S ABANDONED, HOW COME THE ELECTRIC CURRENT IS STILL ON?? I THINK I'LL HAVE A CLOSER LOOK!
TUNNEL

WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I'M A REPORTER FROM THE "CHRONICLE" DOING A SUNDAY FEATURE ON ABANDONED TUNNELS! IT WOULD BE EXCITING TO EXPLORE IT! MAY I?

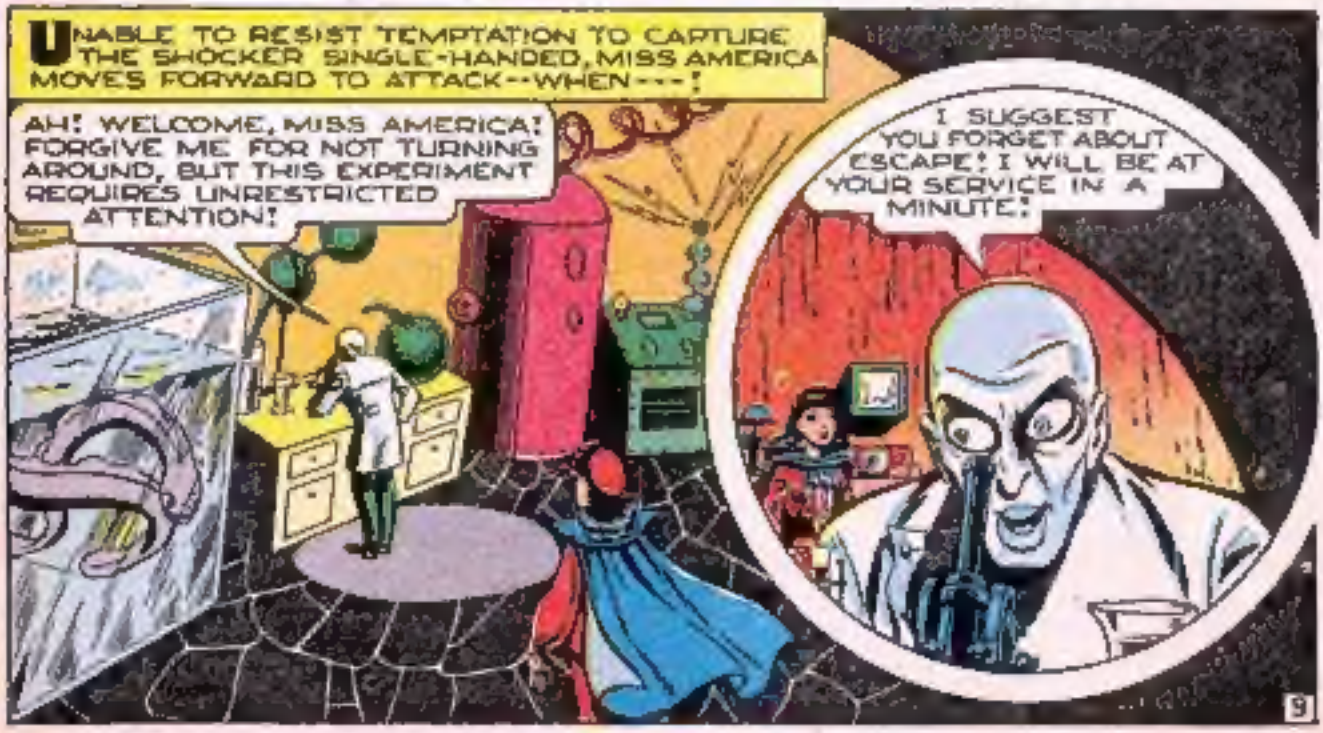
BEAT IT! WE DON'T WANT REPORTERS AROUND HERE!
"WE" IS IT? THAT'S A SLIP! THE SHOCKER DOESN'T MISS A TRICK! OH-OH! LOOKS LIKE STOOGIE IS TRYING TO REACH THAT BUTTON!

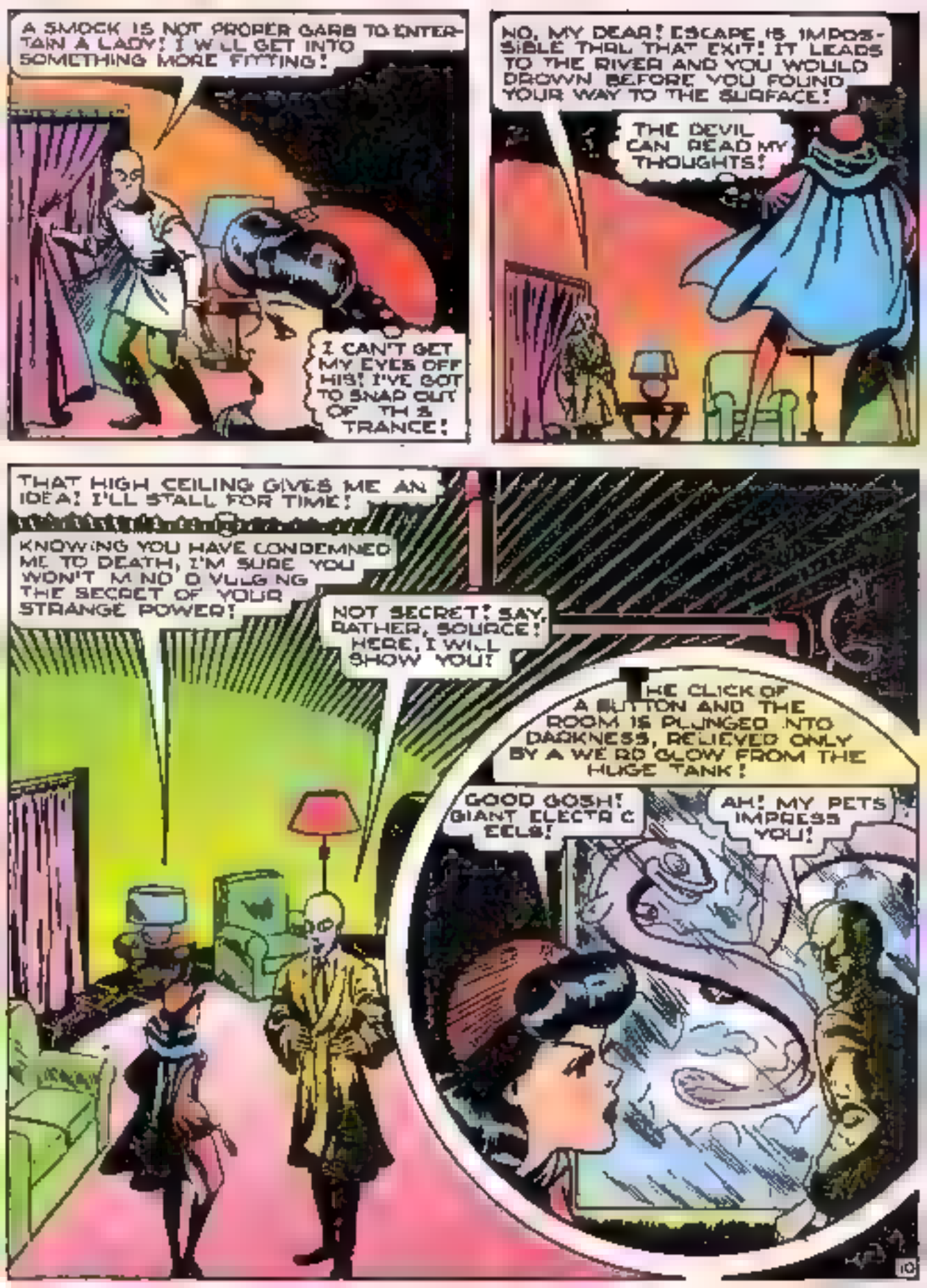
SWIFTLY CHANGING INTO HER FIGHTING COSTUME, MISS AMERICA MOVES ALONG THE ABANDONED TUNNEL TOWARD A GLEAM OF LIGHT!

THIS IS IT! DON'T HEAR HIM IN THERE! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO SNOOP AROUND!

MISS AMERICA STEALTHILY MAKES HER WAY INTO THE CHAMBER CARVED OUT OF THE EARTH, ONLY TO STOP SHORT IN AMAZEMENT!
WOW! THE SHOCKER?? IN A FULLY EQUIPPED LAB! THAT TANK---- GIANT EELS!

FROZEN INTO IMMOBILITY BY SURPRISE, IT IS MINUTES BEFORE MISS AMERICA'S MIND BEGINS TO BUZZ WITH A SUDDEN PLAN OF ACTION!
HE HASN'T MOVED! DON'T THINK HE HEARD ME! ALL I NEED IS ONE GOOD WALLOP BEFORE HE CAN TURN ON HIS LIGHTNING DEATH!


UNABLE TO RESIST TEMPTATION TO CAPTURE THE SHOCKER SINGLE-HANDED, MISS AMERICA MOVES FORWARD TO ATTACK--WHEN---!
AH! WELCOME, MISS AMERICA! FORGIVE ME FOR NOT TURNING AROUND, BUT THIS EXPERIMENT REQUIRES UNRESTRICTED ATTENTION!
I SUGGEST YOU FORGET ABOUT ESCAPE! I WILL BE AT YOUR SERVICE IN A MINUTE!


A SMOCK IS NOT PROPER GARB TO ENTERTAIN A LADY! I W LL GET INTO SOMETHING MORE FITTING!
I CAN'T GET MY EYES OFF HIS! I'VE GOT TO SNAP OUT OF TH S TRANCE!
NO, MY DEAR! ESCAPE IS IMPOSSIBLE THRL THAT EXIT! IT LEADS TO THE RIVER AND YOU WOULD DROWN BEFORE YOU FOUND YOUR WAY TO THE SURFACE!
THE DEVIL CAN READ MY THOUGHTS!
THAT HIGH CEILING GIVES ME AN IDEA! I'LL STALL FOR TIME!
KNOWING YOU HAVE CONDEMNED ME TO DEATH, I'M SURE YOU WON'T M ND O VULG NG THE SECRET OF YOUR STRANGE POWER!
NOT SECRET! SAY, RATHER, SOURCE! HERE, I WILL SHOW YOU!
HE CLICK OF A BUTTON AND THE ROOM IS PLUNGED NTO DARKNESS, RELIEVED ONLY BY A WE RD GLOW FROM THE HUGE TANK!
GOOD GOSH! GIANT ELECTR C EELS!
AH! MY PETS IMPRESS YOU!
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I AM PROUD OF MY ACHIEVEMENT IN TAKING THE COMMON ELECTRIC EEL AND BREEDING THEM TO A COLOSSAL SIZE, WITH A STORE OF IMMEASURABLE ELECTRIC POWER!
I STUDIED AND LIVED THEIR LIVES IN THE WATER UNTIL I WAS LIKE ONE OF THEM! GRADUALLY, I BUILT UP AN IMMUNITY UNTIL I COULD WITHSTAND AND STORE THEIR ELECTRIC FORCE! NOW I CAN CHARGE MY BODY AT WILL WITH THE TERRIBLE FORKED LIGHTNING!
THE SHOCKER, THRU WITH HIS EXPLANATION, REACHES FOR THE LIGHT SWITCH AND---
ENOUGH OF THIS TALK! AND NOW--- YOUR DEATH!
HERE IT COMES! AND HERE I GO INTO THE AIR!
I WILL DIMINISH MY FLASH ENOUGH SO THAT IT WILL ONLY STUN YOU! THEN INTO THE TANK YOU GO!
YOU'LL HAVE TO REACH ME FIRST!
HOPE HIS POWER DOESN'T REACH THE CEILING!
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THE UNCANNY BATTLE IS ON WITH THE SHOCKER GROWING MORE FURIOUS AS HE SENDS HIS LETHAL FORKED FLASHES AGAINST MISS AMERICA WHO WEAVES A DIZZY PATTERN HIGH AGAINST THE CEILING IN A DESPERATE EFFORT TO AVOID DEATH!
YOU'LL NOT ESCAPE ME! I'LL BURN YOU TO A CRISP!
TUT, TUT! DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND! CAN'T YOU THROW ME TO YOUR PETS?

THEN-- IN NARROWLY AVOIDING ONE OF THE FLASHES, MISS AMERICA ZOOMS TOO NEAR THE EARTH CEILING! AND---
OUCH! MY HEAD! ALMOST KNOCKED MYSELF OUT! WAIT--?!?

--IN THAT FLEETING INSTANT, A DESPERATE PLAN IS BORN!
WHY NOT? MAKE THE SHOCKER THINK I'M STUNNED! IT'S A LONG CHANCE BUT I MUST TAKE IT! PRAY THAT HE GOES THRU WITH HIS ORIGINAL IDEA TO THROW ME TO HIS EELS!
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AH! EXCELLENT! SHE CRASHED INTO THE CEILING AND IS FALLING!
OUCH! PLAYED MY PART A BIT TOO REALISTICALLY! HOPE I CAN FOOL HIM!
I'M COUNTING ON HIS TURNING OFF HIS POWER! HERE IT COMES! I'LL SOON KNOW!
YIPEE! HE TOOK THE BAIT! DON'T FEEL A THING! HIS POWER IS OFF!
HARD TO SUPRESS A SHUDDER, AS BURNING EYES BORE INTO HER FACE, MISS AMERICA IS CARRIED TOWARD THE TANK OF EELS!
ALAS! SHE IS TRULY BEAUTIFUL! (SIGH) BUT SHE IS TOO DANGEROUS TO LIVE!
NOW OR NEVER! AND MY KNEE BEING THE NEAREST THING TO YOUR CHIN, WE'LL USE THAT!
OW!

STUNNED BY THE BLOW, THE SHOCKER MAKES A DESPERATE BUT FEEBLE EFFORT TO RECALL HIS POWER!
OH-OH! HAVE TO FINISH HIM OFF BEFORE HE CAN RECOVER!
OUCH! MY HAND! HIS POWER IS RETURNING!
CALLING ON ALL HER POWER IN ONE SUPREME EFFORT, MISS AMERICA LIFTS THE SHOCKER INTO THE AIR AND OVER THE EDGE OF THE TANK!
UGH!
THIS IS ALL I GOT, SHOCKER! IF IT DOESN'T RING THE BELL, YOU WIN!
OH! I CAN'T LOOK! WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO DIE! ONCE UNCONSCIOUS, HE IS JUST ANOTHER HUMAN BEING AND NO MATCH FOR THOSE AWFUL EELS!
SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
THE GIANT EELS, KILLED WITH GAS IN THE TUNNEL LAIR OF THE LATE SHOCKER, WERE TURNED OVER BY THE POLICE TO THE MUSEUM FOR DISPLAY! WANT TO GO SEE THEM, MADELINE!
NO THANKS! I COULD NEVER STAND IT, UNCLE!
THE END